

24 September 2003

Griffith Hack
GPO Box 1285K
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Your Ref : PNF:LW:P46951

Examiner's first report on patent application no. 2002219596
by CASIO COMPUTER

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am replying to the request for examination. I have based this report on the pamphlet. I have examined the application and I believe that there are lawful grounds of objection to the application. These grounds of objection are:

1. Claims 1-5,7-9,13,16-18,21,22,29 lack novelty in light of citation a) EP 1009054(MATSUSHITA) 14 June 2000 *.
2. Claims 1,8-10,13-18,29-31 lack novelty in light of citation b) WO 00/35032 (HOCKADAY et al.) 15 June 2000 *.
3. Claims 16,17,21,22,29 lack novelty in light of citation c) DE 4431747 (IMRA EUROPE SA) 9 March 1995 *.
4. Claims 11,12, 27,28 lack an inventive step when citation d) US 5759712 (HOCKADAY) 2 June 1998 *, is considered in light of common general knowledge.

* Cited in the ISR

5. When I consider all of the claims together, I cannot understand the scope of the monopoly being claimed because it is not readily clear what combination of integers defines the invention. This is because different claims have different combinations of integers.

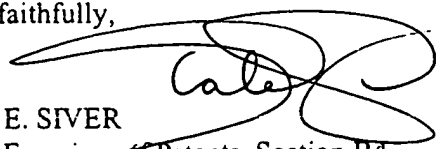
6. Claim 1, at least lacks novelty in light of citation e) US5976725 (GAMO et al.) 2 November 1999.

7. Claim 1,11,12 at least lack novelty in light of citation f) US5932365 (Lin et al.) 3 August 1999
Citations e) and f) were located in an additional search performed by IP Australia.

8. There is no Notice of Entitlement on file. You will need to file one because an application without a Notice of Entitlement cannot be accepted.

You have 21 months from the date of this report to overcome all my objection(s) otherwise your application will lapse. You will need to pay a monthly fee for any response you file after 12 months from the date of this report.

Yours faithfully,


DALE E. SIVER
Senior Examiner of Patents, Section B4
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